



The *Curtain Raiser*

Ocala Civic Theatre Newsletter

Volume / Season 2008-2009, Issue No. 9

March 2009

OCALA CIVIC THEATRE SALUTES ITS SPONSORS

ON TOP OF THE WORLD COMMUNITIES, INC.

On Top of the World Communities is pleased to sponsor the showing of *No Sex Please, We're British*.

On Top of the World Communities, an award-winning active adult community now has three new home designs and two custom home plans that let you tailor the home of your dreams. Watch for our Grand Opening Open House Event coming in April and tour these beautifully furnished homes and the wonderful community that surrounds them.

On Top of the World offers an active adult lifestyle with an abundance of amenities. The Circle Square Commons Town Center, located in the community, gives residents and locals alike LIVE entertainment each weekend in an open air plaza, the area's only weekly farmer's market, festivals and more! Plus, The Circle Square Commons also offers a modern spa and fitness center at The Ranch Fitness Center and Spa, Yalaha Bakery, Mr. B's Big Scoop Ice Cream and concerts at the state-of-the-art Circle Square Cultural Center.

Participate in lifelong learning opportunities at Master the Possibilities Education Center where all residents of Marion County are invited to join in. And for golf enthusiasts, On Top of the World features its semi-private Candler Hills Golf Club where you can play a terrific round of golf on the championship par 72 course.

There's never a dull moment when you're a resident at On Top of the World Communities. For more information, receive a free video/DVD, or tour any one of our fourteen fabulous model homes, call 352-854-2394 or visit us online at www.OnTopoftheWorld.com.

On Top of the World is proud to support the Ocala Civic Theatre in bringing quality entertainment to the residents of Ocala and Marion County.



By Anthony Marriott and Alistair Foot

Produced by Special Arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

No Sex Please, We're British had one of the longest comedy runs in the history of London's West End, running for nearly a decade with over 6,700 performances. During this time, the show also crossed the Atlantic to Broadway and was made into a movie.

Newlyweds Peter and Frances Hunter have just moved into a flat above the bank where Peter works as branch manager. They look forward to a pleasant, happy, quiet beginning to their new life; however, when Frances innocently sends a mail order for some Scandinavian glassware, what comes back is not what she expected. Peter is appalled by the veritable flood of sexy photographs, books, films and, eventually, girls that threaten to engulf them, and the two, along with the bank's frantic chief cashier, Brian Runnicles, frantically attempt to handle the problem.

The matter is considerably complicated by Peter's very proper boss, Leslie Bromhead, who is appalled at the very thought, and Peter's mother, Eleanor, who would be appalled if she understood what was happening. Throw in a bank auditor, who arrives for a surprise visit, and a police superintendent, and you have a must-see British farce.

The cast includes **Bruce Clayton** (*I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change; I Hate Hamlet*) and **Allison H. Metcalf** (*42nd Street*; [continued on next page])

Corporate Sponsors
On Top Of The World Communities, Inc.
FOX 51
ESPN Radio

A Matched Pair:

Accidental Friends & THE SECRET LIVES OF TOADS

A Matched Pair features two short plays which explore the fears of new experiences, the struggle to fit in and the search for acceptance.

In Y. York's *Accidental Friends*, Jonathan, a popular student-athlete, and Hilda, a classic over-achiever geek, form a friendship after an head injury leaves Jonathan temporarily blinded. Their new friendship is tested when Jonathan returns to school after recovering his sight and renounces Hilda to his "old friends". Jonathan realizes his mistake, but it may be too late. The cast includes **Austin Britt** as Jonathan, **Melissa Ordeneaux** as Hilda, **Tyler Ernest** as Willie and **Fallon Mincy** as Marcy.

In the D.W. Gregory comedy *The Secret Lives Of Toads*, Harvey faces his first day at a new school, where things look none too inviting. The cool kids have staked out their territory and there is no room for nerds, dweebs or kids with weird attitudes, such as Cissy and Barrie. When Harvey befriends these luckless souls, he is thrust into the middle of a simmering feud between his new friends and the snootiest girl in school. Meanwhile, the caged frogs in the science lab have their own ideas about what it means to be stuck and the excitement peaks when frogs and kids find themselves trapped together on the wrong side of a locked door. The cast includes **Carson Bedford**, **Abby Hanks**, **Chyanne Hill**, **Matthew Lemire**, **R.J. Lemire**, **Megan Lusher**, **Riley Mixson**, **Carl Polack**, **Katie Rochlin**, **Rachel Rochlin**, **Abby Simons**, **Sara Smith**, **Tony Tribuani**, **Sydney Vaden** and **Stephen Williams**.

A Matched Pair is a Theatre for Young Audiences production on the outdoor stage and is recommended for third grade and up. Performances are on Saturdays, March 7 and 14, at 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., and Sundays, March 8 and 15, at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are now on sale at \$5.00 per person or may be purchased at the door. The outdoor stage does not have fixed seating, so bring a lawn chair or a blanket. To purchase tickets, call (352) 236-2274 or go to www.ocalacivictheatre.com.

Coming Events

A Matched Pair: Accidental Friends and The Secret Lives Of Toads

Theatre for Young Audiences
March 7 - March 15

No Sex Please, We're British

MainStage
March 19 - April 12

Annual Golf Tournament

Special Event
April 17

Princess Style

Marion Ballet Theatre
April 17 - April 19

Dancing With Ocala's Stars: Season 3

Special Event
April 25

The Surprising Story Of The Three Little Pigs

Theatre for Young Audiences
May 8 - May 10

The Wizard Of Oz

MainStage
May 14 - June 7

NO SEX PLEASE (continued)

Cats) as Peter and Frances Hunter; **Alan J. Hickey** (*The Unexpected Guest; The Woman In Black*) as Brian Runnicles; **Ken Noble** (*God's Favorite; On Golden Pond*) as Leslie Bromhead; **Christine A. Perry** as Eleanor Hunter; **Peter Prevete** (*My Favorite Year; The Mikado*) as Superintendent Paul; **Howard Christ** as Mr. Needham; **Jessie Lynn Coan** (*Hello, Dolly!; The Music Man*) as Susan; **Inga Uys** (*Macabaret VI*) as Barbara; and **Ryan James** (*Laughter On The 23rd Floor*) as the Delivery Man.

No Sex Please, We're British is directed by **SuSu Sparkman**, who previously directed such Ocala Civic Theatre productions as *Hello, Dolly!; Thoroughly Modern Millie; 42nd Street* and *The Battle Of Shallowford*. Scenic design is by **Tim Dygert**, with lighting design by **Robert P. Robins**, sound design by **Timothy J. Dygert** and costume design by **Bridget Bartlett**. **Cate O'Brien** serves as production stage manager.

The show opens on Thursday, March 19, and runs through Sunday, April 12. Curtain times are 8:00 p.m. for evening performances and 2:00 p.m. for matinees. Tickets are now on sale at \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for full-time students. For reservations, call (352) 236-2274 or go online to www.ocalacivictheatre.com.

The plot is all about keeping a stiff upper lip, maintaining social respectability, keeping secrets - and failing miserably. Don't miss it.

Felix's

917 East Silver Springs Boulevard
Ocala, Florida 34470
(352) 629-0339

**Bring your tickets
for Ocala Civic Theatre
and receive 10% OFF
your entire check.**

**Valid only on day of show.*
Good for up to 4 people. Cannot be
combined with other discounts.**

*Tickets for Sunday performances may be redeemed
Tuesday through Thursday of the following week.

**We strongly recommend you make
reservations on any evening you
are dining prior to the performance.**

Hours of Operation
Tuesday through Saturday: Lunch
11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday through Saturday: Dinner
4:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Sunday Brunch: 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Closed Sunday and Monday

18TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT GREAT FUN! LOTS OF PRIZES!

The 18th Annual Golf Tournament to benefit Ocala Civic Theatre will be held on Friday, April 17, at Candler Hills Golf Club, which is located on S.W. 80th Avenue, one mile north of State Road 200. The format will be best-ball Florida scramble.

There will be hole-in-one prizes for the first hole-in-one on all Par 3 holes. The top prize is a new car. Each player will have the opportunity to win one of over 50 on-course and door prizes. Golfers will be divided into three flights, including at least one senior flight. The first-place team in each flight will win trophies and \$100.00 per person in gift certificates. The second-place team in each flight will receive \$85.00 per person in gift certificates. The third-place team in each flight will receive \$75.00 per person in gift certificates.

The tournament will have a 1:00 p.m. shotgun start. Players may arrive as early as 11:30 a.m. to register and warm up with range balls. The entry fee is \$75.00 per person, and includes dinner, on-course beverages, range balls, greens fees, cart, a goodie bag with golf balls, and more. Make up your own foursome (or we will assist you). Mixed foursomes and ladies foursomes are invited. Sorry, no professionals are allowed to play. A Barbeque Buffet is included for golfers as soon as they finish their tournament play. For additional information or to request an entry form, please call the Theatre box office at (352) 236-2274. Entry forms are also available at www.ocalacivictheatre.com.

Sponsors are essential to the success of any tournament. There are opportunities to assist the tournament as a corporate, scorecard, hole, raffle or door prize sponsor. Sponsors will be recognized at the course the day of the tournament, as well as in the Theatre lobby during the run of *The Wizard Of Oz*. **In addition, each corporate, scorecard and hole sponsor will receive a certificate for one foursome (without cart) for future play at Candler Hills Golf Club.** If you are interested in being a Golf Tournament sponsor, please telephone Mary Britt at (352) 236-2851 or send her an e-mail at info@ocalacivictheatre.com.





NEW YORK, HERE WE COME!

The Theatre has organized annual trips to New York City for many years and 2009 is no exception. This year the group will leave from the Theatre parking lot on Wednesday morning, May 27, and return on Sunday evening, May 31. The trip package includes the following: airfare, airport transportation, four nights at the beautiful Renaissance Hotel at Times Square (a four-star hotel located in the heart of the Broadway theatre district), one dinner, and your choice of three Broadway shows. The Renaissance recently completed a \$24-million renovation, and its location means that the theatres and restaurants are all within easy walking distance.

We work hard to get you the best seats in the theatre and you can choose shows from any that are currently running, as long as tickets are available. There are a lot of great shows running on Broadway during this trip, including *9 to 5* with Allison Janney; *Accent on Youth* with David Hyde Pierce; *Blithe Spirit* with Angela Lansbury and Christine Ebersole; *Desire Under The Elms* with Brian Dennehy; *Exit The King* with Susan Sarandon; *God Of Carnage* with Jeff Daniels, Hope Davis, James Gandolfini and Marcia Gay Harden; *Impressions* with Jeremy Irons, Joan Allen and Marsha Mason; *The Philanthropist* with Matthew Brodrick; and *Waiting For Godot* with Bill Irvin, Nathan Olane and John Goodman.

This trip is very independent and includes lots of free time for you to explore the city, including Chinatown, Greenwich Village and SoHo. The New York Mets will be playing the Washington Nationals and the Florida Marlins. Judy Collins is singing at the Cafe Carlyle. American Ballet Theatre is presenting *Le Corsaire*. Visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art or the Washington Square Outdoor Art Exhibit. Tour Rockefeller Center, Grand Central Terminal and Radio City Music Hall.

The cost for the May trip is \$1650.00 per person/double occupancy. For additional information, call (352) 236-2851 or e-mail mbritt@ocalacivictheatre.com. Join us for the best of the Big Apple!

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello! Spring is here and we are already spending more time outside. Isn't Florida great?! Of course, our new landscaping is looking pretty dead at the moment. You can see green peeking through, but the Farmers' Almanac says that we can't cut it all back until March 15 - the traditional last day we can get freezing temperatures. We should be looking more lush and green by the time you come to see *No Sex Please, We're British*. We've loaded the pots on the patio with Impatiens, which also makes it look like spring is just around the corner. Such a cheerful flower!

One of the benefits of nicer weather is the fact that we can use our outdoor stage for our youth productions. We have a pair of productions running from March 7 through March 15 - *Accidental Friends* and *The Secret Lives Of Toads*. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets, your cooler and all your friends. We do have bleachers in case you forget your blanket. And we will have concessions outside for this show, in case you don't want to lug a cooler. It's a great pair of stories about children and fitting in. Tickets for shows on the outdoor stage are only \$5.00 per person. Come join us and bring the children!

Nicer weather also means that all the golf courses are busy again. In Florida, people do play all year round, but at least it's easier now to play without being bundled up or trying to hold an umbrella and hit the ball at the same time. (Of course, that's why you never play alone. Someone needs to hold the umbrella - and back up your story on that hole-in-one.) On Friday, April 17, we are holding our 18th Annual Golf Tournament to benefit the Theatre. There is a 1:00 p.m. shotgun start with a barbeque buffet dinner following the end of play. It's a fun tournament with over 50 door prizes in addition to the on-course prizes. The tournament will be at the beautiful Candler Hills Golf Club on S.W. 80th Avenue this year. If you are interested in playing, please call or e-mail the Theatre and we will mail you an entry form. You can also download the form from our website. A successful tournament needs sponsors, as well. Sponsors who donate \$100.00 or more - Corporate, Hole or Scorecard sponsorship - will receive a certificate that allows a foursome to play free at Candler Hills on a future date. Depending on the time of year when you redeem the certificate, that's at least a \$100.00 value. It's an amazing benefit for sponsors to thank them for supporting us. If you are interested in being a sponsor, please call or e-mail me and I will give you all the details. Mark your calendar for April 17 and join us for a round of great golf and prizes.

I have another date to mark on your calendar. This year's Dancing With Ocala's Stars: Season 3 will be on stage at the Theatre on April 25. Check out the article in the newsletter for details. Tickets go on sale on March 30. The first two years were lots of fun, but now that we can do the event at the Theatre, it should really be a stunning evening. I hope you'll join us. Our celebrities are busy learning their routines and there will be great food and an opportunity to "vote" for your favorite couple.

Before the Golf Tournament and Dancing With Ocala's Stars, however, we have a month of "No Sex". Oops! I mean we have four weeks of the hilarious comedy *No Sex Please, We're British*. We open on March 19 and run through April 12. In fact, you can choose to have "No Sex..." five days a week. Oh, I know I'm going to get into trouble! Hope I didn't offend! It's a terrific comedy, so don't miss it.

See you at the Theatre!

THEATRE UPDATES ON LINE!

It's easy to find out the latest happenings at Ocala Civic Theatre. Just go to our website at www.ocalacivictheatre.com. Click on "Special Events" to find the latest information about fund-raisers. ... Click on "Auditions" to find audition dates, and cast and character descriptions (you can even download the Audition Sheet and have it filled out before you go to auditions). ... Click on "Education" to see what our Director of Education has coming up for youth auditions, performances, classes - as well as adult workshops. ... Click on "Volunteers" to find ideas about what volunteer opportunities are available, or to get information about the Golden Troupers and ACT IV. You can even send a message or get an answer to your questions by going to "Contact Us".



Mary Britt

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Ocala Civic Theatre is proud to support the future of the performing arts through its scholarship program. Encouraging young talent to pursue the performing arts is a part of the Theatre's mission. In addition to producing shows which allow students to perform and hone their technical skills, we offer scholarships to Marion County residents planning to major in the performing arts at college.

Scholarships are awarded in the fields of Theatre Arts (Acting, Play Writing, Directing, Technical), Music (Voice), Music (Instrumental) and Dance. This is a competitive process in which students fill out an application, write an essay, offer references, attend an interview and present their talent in an audition. The award amount varies, but is a minimum of \$500 per award. More than \$79,000 has been awarded since the program (supported by Concession Stand sales, ACT IV and individual donations) was established in 1981.

Applications are now available and may be picked up at the Theatre. To receive one by mail, call (352) 236-2274. The forms are also available in the guidance office at area high schools. The absolute deadline for submitting applications is Friday, April 17, at 5:30 p.m. The audition/interview will be held on Saturday, May 16.



The
Gift
Box



A
Fund-Raising
Project of
ACT IV

**HEARTS AND FLOWERS
AND SPRINGTIME...**

**great things to brighten
your spirits!**

Stop by The Gift Box and check out our new cheerful springtime items. We have jewelry and other items to fit anyone's budget - from the most discriminating taste to our popular Bargain Basement! We all know how a new, pretty piece of jewelry (even if it's just a pair of earrings!) can brighten our spirits. **House of Bartosic hand-crocheted scarves are now 25% off.**

Stop by and shop with us before the show and during intermission. And, don't forget, any time the Theatre is open you can stop in and ask at the box office for someone to assist you at The Gift Box. We'll see you there soon!



Dancing With Ocala's Stars: Season 3

Saturday, April 25, 2009

Join us for Season 3 of Dancing With Ocala's Stars! We are moving the event to the Theatre this season, with the competition actually happening on stage!

The evening will begin with sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, wine and champagne. There will be open dancing for everyone on stage and special showcase performances. Our Star couples will begin with the foxtrot. After the foxtrot, the audience will take a break for dessert and have time to "vote" for their favorite celebrity. Votes are \$1.00 each. Then each couple returns for their solo and you will see a variety of dance styles. The judges will select a male and female celebrity winner and an award will also be given for the Star who receives the most "votes".

General admission tickets are \$100.00 each and reserved seating is \$125.00. There are a very limited number of VIP tables on stage. VIP tickets are \$175.00 each and include some special extras. Tickets go on sale to the public on Monday, March 30. For reservations and information, call (352) 236-2851.

HOW DO WE DO THAT?

Backstage Tour

Saturday, May 16 • 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We frequently receive compliments and a lot of questions about how we manage to create the fabulous sets and costumes you see at each production. So, we are scheduling an Open House to show you all our secrets!

Our backstage tour is back by popular demand. Join the staff and volunteers who work behind the scenes creating those magical designs while we demonstrate techniques used to turn Styrofoam into wood paneling, trees, stone, bricks and more. Get an up-close look at the set, props and costumes created for *The Wizard Of Oz*. Take a behind-the-scenes tour and we'll let you in on the magic. Everyone is invited to attend. You may just want to look around, or you might be interested in becoming a volunteer. We are always looking for new folks to join us behind the scenes. Don't miss it. It's FREE and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

MAKE A CHILD'S DREAM COME TRUE!

Ocala Civic Theatre has always believed that a student's interest in learning about theatre and performing arts should not be limited by his or her parents' financial situation. We have been lucky to offer full or partial scholarships to students who demonstrate financial need. We are delighted to say we have never turned a child away because the family could not afford the tuition.

How does this happen? It happens because of the generosity of people in the community who donate funds to cover the cost of tuition for students in need. Donations are sometimes large, but often we receive gifts of \$25.00 or \$50.00. Tuition ranges from \$45.00 for a one-hour-per-week class to \$150.00 for a performance class. Sometimes students need just a little help and, at other times, a full scholarship. Approximately 12 percent of our students request financial assistance. But, what a difference the arts can make in a child's life! Classes build confidence, teach discipline, and teach students to express themselves creatively. If you would like to join this generous group of angels, contact Mary Britt or Charlene Starzinski at (352) 236-2851 for additional information. Your thoughtfulness will be sincerely appreciated.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GET UP 'N' GO RAFFLE DONORS

One of the keys to a successful raffle is a group of valuable prizes and we are very grateful to the many businesses which donated items. Please support them when you travel, dine out or shop. Special thanks to the following organizations for their donations to this year's Get Up 'N' Go Raffle.

Abio's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria	Felix's	Panera Bread
Adobe East	Flint Creek Outfitters	Pi On Broadway
Aioli's Market & Deli	Front Porch Restaurant & Pie Shop	Play It Again Sports
Amrit Palace Indian Restaurant	Gator Joe's Beach Bar & Grill	Red Lobster
Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar	Gause & Son Jewelers	Richard's Place
Ayuttaya Thai Cuisine	Guion & Bassett Fine Jewelry	Scrambles Cafe
Bakers and Cooks	Harry's Seafood Bar & Grille	Shannon Roth Collection
Barbazon's Sports Bar & Grill	Home Depot	SKY Asian Fusion
Bits & Pieces	Honeysuckle's Cafe	Tea With Lee
Blackwater Inn	Koontz Co.	The Cottage Shoppe
Bonefish Grill	Lakis Restaurant	The Learning Wheel
Brick City Restaurant	Latinos Y Mas	The Marketplace on Broadway
Busch Gardens	Lightsource	The Melting Pot
Candler Hills Restaurant	Mary-Katherine's Fine Ladies Apparel	The Primary Oven
Carmichael's	McAlister's Deli	The Veranda Gallery & Tea Room
Carrabba's Italian Grill	Murphy's Oyster Bar	Tom Falvey's Men's Store
Chelsea Coffee Company	Ocala Ale House	Tres Chic
Cody's Original Roadhouse	Ocala Art & Frame	Twirlee's Ice Cream
Country Stuff 4 Me	Olive Garden	Uptown Grill
DeeDee's Dog House	Olivia & Co. Kids	Wing Zone
Dick's Sporting Goods	Outback Steakhouse	Wolfy's Restaurant
Dillard's	Paddock Room Galleries	Yamato Japanese Steak House & Sushi Bar
Walt Disney World		Your Heart's Desire

The drawing for the Get Up 'N' Go Raffle will be held on Friday, March 6, at 12:00 noon at Ocala Civic Theatre. Tickets will be on sale at the Theatre during regular box office hours and at performances of *The Baker's Wife* until that time. The names of the winners will be announced in the April issue of *The Curtain Raiser*.

GOLDEN TROUPERS

Have you ever heard of the Golden Troupers? Our group is part of the programming at Ocala Civic Theatre. We offer a variety of songs and skits to entertain a wide audience outside the Theatre. If you can sing or read - and are 55 or over - we invite you to join us. We meet at the Theatre on Mondays at 1:00 p.m. Call (352) 236-2274 for more information. We guarantee you'll have fun and make new friends.



LOOKING FOR A SPECIAL GIFT?

Ocala Civic Theatre gift certificates are available year 'round! Call (352) 236-2274 for information.



It's spring cleaning time! On May 2, ACT IV is holding a theatre-wide rummage sale... and we need your help! As they say in real estate, location is everything. If you have or know of a vacant storefront or property with lots of storage space for all the items we'll be collecting, please contact the Theatre. Also, please let us know if you have any old "treasures" you'd be willing to donate to our sale, or if you'd like to help out with this fun event. This is a great way to help ACT IV raise funds and clear out some space for yourself around the house... remember, one person's "trash" is another person's "treasure"!

And, don't forget, ACT IV's next General Meeting will be held at the Theatre on Tuesday, March 24, at 1:30 p.m. We'd like to see YOU there.



A swirl of ballgowns, tiaras, sparkling eyes, gorgeous smiles ... along with giggles, mischievousness and, of course, glittering shoes reveal the Marion Ballet Theatre's original, dazzling production of

Princess Style

Marion Ballet Theatre invites you on a journey beginning in Belle's garden, where she will welcome you with a story and then dance the way to Cinderella's ballroom; thereupon, you will relish in the Fairy Godmother's magic. The highlight of the production will be for your delight at Sleeping Beauty's ball, where you will encounter all your favorite ballet princesses, including Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Jasmine, Little Red Riding Hood, Sleeping Beauty, and more. Here all will gather in celebration with music and dance! The original choreography, set to music of the great classical masters such as Tchaikovsky and Prokofiev, will be certain to provide an evening of entertainment and elegance.

Photographs and autographs with individual princesses will be available on stage following each performance for a charge.

April 17 – April 19

Ballet Tickets

\$20.00 Adult • \$18.00 Ocala Civic Theatre Season Ticket Holders • \$9.00 Child (11-Under)

Children... come to the Theatre in your favorite princess gown prior to the performance for a Tea Party to meet all of your favorite ballet princesses.

The menu includes finger sandwiches, chocolate-covered strawberries, homemade princess cookies, iced tea, juice and water.

All princesses attending will have the opportunity to meet the full cast of princesses and watch the parade of princesses. Party favors will be presented to each child at the party table along with additional surprises.

All groups of children must have at least one adult present per family.

Tea Party Tickets

\$8.00 per Child • \$6.00 Third Child per Family and Up • No Charge for Supervising Adult

For Information, call the Ocala Civic Theatre Box Office at (352) 236-2274

RESERVATION SCHEDULE

BOX OFFICE HOURS
 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
 Monday through Friday
 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 Performance Saturdays
 Phone: (352) 236-2274
www.ocalacivictheatre.com

This schedule lists dates when tickets go on sale. For performance dates, see schedules or articles elsewhere in this newsletter.

Now	18th Annual Golf Tournament - Registration forms available.
Now	A Matched Pair: Accidental Friends and The Secret Lives Of Toads - Tickets on sale.
Now	No Sex Please, We're British - Flex Pass reservations and exchanges open.
Mar. 9	No Sex Please, We're British - Tickets on sale.
Mar. 30	Dancing With Ocala's Stars: Season 3 - Tickets on sale.
Apr. 13	The Surprising Story Of The Three Little Pigs - Tickets on sale.
Apr. 20	The Wizard Of Oz - Flex Pass reservations and exchanges open.
May 4	The Wizard Of Oz - Tickets on sale.

OCALA CIVIC THEATRE OPEN AUDITIONS



Children: March 22 at 5:00 p.m.
Adults: March 23 at 7:00 p.m.
 and March 24 at 7:00 p.m.
 Experience is not required.
 Newcomers are always welcome.
 Information: (352) 236-2274
www.ocalacivictheatre.com

ED NOTES

Greetings all. It has been pretty active around here: so much going on and so little space to tell you about it. So let's get started.

First up, you won't want to miss our first outdoor production of the spring. *A Matched Pair* features two plays for the price of one. *Accidental Friends* and *The Secret Lives of Toads* explore the fears of new experiences, the struggle to fit in, coping with loss, the search for acceptance and the ongoing challenge we all have to figure out who we really are inside. The pair of one-acts will run March 7 through March 15.

And speaking of spring performances, auditions for our second spring production will be held Saturday, March 28, at 9:00 a.m. In *The Surprising Story of the Three Little Pigs*, three classic fairy tales (*The Three Little Pigs*, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*) begin in their usual "once upon a time" fashion; however, this time things change on the way to "happily ever after" as the pigs wonder what life would be like if the wolf were not always at their door, the billy goats gruff decide they can't face another trip-trap over the troll's bridge, and Papa Bear has had enough of the meddlesome little Goldilocks! The three trios join forces to rewrite their stories, ridding themselves of their respective villains by exchanging them. Flexible gender casting allows 16 roles for students in Grades 2-12. Performances will run May 8, 9 and 10.

On the School Outreach front, I am happy to report that we have successfully completed our third annual Literacy Tour to area elementary schools. In a 30-minute presentation for kindergarten through second grade, *An Invitation From Shell Silverstein* featured the poetry, stories and artwork of this popular children's author. While we are still compiling the official final numbers, we can tell you that we visited 23 schools and reached over 6,100 students. The next phase of this year's School Outreach program will move into high gear later this month when *Choosing Sides For Basketball*, an ingenious blend of humor, suspense and action, revolving around four children waiting to be chosen for basketball teams, tours for area third, fourth and fifth graders.

The final Scouting Workshop for the school year will take place on Saturday, March 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Junior Girl Scouts can take part in a variety of activities, including a facilities tour, creative drama games and exercises, all designed to meet the theatre badge requirements. Cost is \$10.00 per scout (supervising adults attend free) and space is limited. Call the Education Department for reservations and more information.

Students in Grades 3-8 looking for something different to do during Spring Break will want to check out this year's Spring Break Camp, *Off To See The Wizard*. Using the 1925 silent film version of *The Wizard of Oz* (which focuses on comedy rather than fantasy and stars Oliver Hardy) students will reinvent their own story of Dorothy, the Scarecrow and the Tin Woodsman in a short humorous film. Bring your imagination - and a lunch. The camp runs Monday, March 30, through Friday, April 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

And, in case you have not heard, this past month we began a new program for pre-school students, ages 3 to 5. *Mommy & Me* is a parent/child kindergarten prep class designed to help young students take meaningful 'steps' on their road to learning. Through songs, rhymes, creative drama games and movement, students are exposed to basic academic and social skills which will help prepare them for kindergarten and beyond. Class meets from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. every second and fourth Thursday of the month, February through May. Attend one, some or all the sessions. Cost is \$10.00 per child (parents are FREE). Space will be limited, so please reserve your space by the Tuesday prior to each session.

Finally, I have received quite a few e-mails and phone calls about the summer schedule, especially about Missoula Children's Theatre. Missoula will return this summer with two shows: *The Princess And The Pea* (June 15-20) and *Rumpelstiltskin* (August 3-8). We will once again conduct the registration lottery in order to give everyone an equal chance to participate. The lottery is open to students ages 6 to 18, with registration beginning at the May 8, 9 and 10 outdoor performances of *The Surprising Story of the Three Little Pigs*. The lottery registrations will continue beginning Monday, May 11, at 9:30 a.m. and end on Friday, May 15, at 5:30 p.m. During the week, you may call or come by the Theatre to register during regular box office hours (10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.). Results of the lottery drawings will be announced the following week. Complete details about the lottery procedure will be available in the Ed Notes portion of our April newsletter. The summer schedule of classes is due to go to the printer April 15 and will be mailed out shortly afterwards.

Don't forget to check out the website for a complete listing and details about upcoming classes and activities in April. In the meantime, enjoy the spring weather and I'll see ya around the Theatre.— Tom Whatley, Education Director

VIP: VERY IMPORTANT PEOPLE

"What is **ACT IV**?" "How long has ACT IV been around?" "Can anybody join ACT IV?" These are common questions, as more people discover the wonders of Ocala Civic Theatre's fund-raising guild. To answer these questions, let's borrow a line from *The Sound Of Music* for the do-re-mi of this month's VIP. Let's start at the very beginning... a very good place to start.

Dough. Funds. Financial resources. Whatever you call it, ACT IV's primary purpose is to raise money for the Theatre.

Ray. Ray Cooper and his swing orchestra performing at "Stompin' At the Springs" in January. Last year's Broadway revue. The spring fashion show of some of the Theatre's most memorable costumes. The Gift Box in the lobby. Themed gift baskets raffled off during shows. All of these are ACT IV fund-raisers!

Me. The answer to the question, "Who can join ACT IV?" ME. YOU. Anyone can join and everyone is welcome! There is no age requirement, not even a minimum of volunteer hours. All it takes is annual dues of \$15.00 (\$25.00 for couples). ACT IV has almost 90 members, but there's always room for more!

Far. The reach of influence of ACT IV. Did you know that ACT IV has paid for spotlights, shop tools, a ladies' restrooms, hearing enhancement units, refrigerators and freezers, copy machine, box office ticket scanner, computer monitors and microphones - just to name a few things? ACT IV also pays royalties for the student dress rehearsal nights and provides thousands of dollars for scholarships. No matter who you are or what you do at the Theatre, ACT IV's contributions have benefited you.

So. "So now what?". What does ACT IV next have in store for the future? A rummage sale... '50s sock hop... a vaudeville show... another Broadway music revue... and more!

La. A sound you will hear at General Meetings, which frequently end with musical entertainment. It's also a sound heard at fund-raisers, such as the Broadway revues or swing concerts.

Tea. And other refreshments, possibly including, but not limited to, jam and bread, served at each meeting. We also just had a very successful Mardi Gras-themed "A Taste of ACT IV." Who says you can't put the fun in fund-raising?

And that brings us back to...

Dough. How much of it did we raise last season? More than \$10,000. How much of it have we raised over the past 20 years? More than \$120,000! And, how can you help us raise more? By volunteering your time and efforts. By financial contributions. By donating goods for fund-raisers or raffle gift baskets. By attending a fund-raiser. There are so many ways you can help ACT IV help the Theatre... and we would love to help you find the ways that are right for you!

To find out more, talk to one of our officers - **John P. A. Sherman, Jason Bartosic, Maxine Nelson, Melody Murphy** or **Susan Moring** - or Board members **Jen Buckland, Bruce Clayton, Patti Cole, Bill Duell, Lois Ann Kohlweiss, Pearl Moore, Ginny Riley** and **Sue Rzepecki**. Or, come to a general meeting, held at the Theatre on the fourth Tuesday of each month, September through May.

ACT IV has been around for an amazing 20 years. It was founded by ACT IV Director Emeritus **Fran Clemons** and a group of dedicated volunteers, who offered their time, effort and passion to contributing the very best to the Theatre they loved. Many of these Charter members are still part of ACT IV today: **Mabel Applegate, Dorothy Clark, Jim and Biddie Kirk, Myrl Menard, Randall and Susan Moring, Alice Stewart** and **Ruth Tassa**.

So join ACT IV! Be a part of the next generation of those who love the Theatre and are willing to have a great time working hard to ensure its future success.

ACT IV's tireless and dedicated members... these are a few of Ocala Civic Theatre's favorite things.

Carmichael's RESTAURANT Established 1986

**Bring your tickets
for Ocala Civic Theatre
and receive 10% OFF
your entire check.**

Featuring our Famous Sunset Dinners for only \$8.89

• 7 Days A Week •

Served Daily from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Selections Change Weekly

"Black Angus" Chopped Sirloin

Spaghetti and Meatballs

Chicken Parmigiana

Ocala's Best Meat Loaf

Filet Mignon Tips Diablo

Roast Turkey and Country Dressing

Valid only on day of show. Good for up to 4 people.

Cannot be combined with other discounts.

Open 7 Days

352-622-3636

Major Credit Cards Honored
Lunch - Dinner - Cocktails

754 N.E. 25th Avenue, Ocala

www.CarmichaelsRestaurant.com

2008-2009

Board of Directors

President

Andrew Copeland

Vice President

Clark Dougherty

Secretary

Lori Cotton Henry

Treasurer

Brian Everard

Immediate Past President

Tim Roberson

Members

Jaye Baillie

Jim P. Hilty, Sr.

Douglas L. Kirkland

Paulette Millhorn

Miriam W. Needham

Gary Rigby

Darrell G. Riley

Dr. G. Edward Stewart II

Christine Stone

Donna Strickland

Directors Emeritus

Bill Bartlett (d. 1983)

Bridget Bartlett

Gordon Mobbs (d. 1999)

Staff

Executive Director

Mary H. Britt

*Production Manager/
Technical Director*

Timothy J. Dygert

*Assistant Technical
Director/Master Electrician*

Tom Buckland

Comptroller

Charlene Starzinski

Costume Designer

Bridget Bartlett

Marketing Director

Maxine Nelson

Director of Education

Tom Whatley

General Technician

Ken Noble

*Box Office Manager
and Volunteer Coordinator*

Jennifer Buckland

Administrative Assistant

Janice Kirk

Box Office Assistants

Sue Rzepecki

Christine Perry

Marsha Benningfield

Melody Murphy

Costume Assistant

SuSu Sparkman

Custodian

Howard Squires

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

MARCH 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>The Baker's Wife</i> 1 2:00 p.m.	2	3	4	5	<i>Get Up 'N' Go</i> 6 Raffle Drawing 12:00 noon	<i>A Matched Pair:</i> 7 <i>Accidental Friends</i> <i>Secret Lives of Toads</i> 11:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
<i>A Matched Pair:</i> 8 <i>Accidental Friends</i> <i>Secret Lives of Toads</i> 3:00 p.m.	<i>No Sex ...</i> 9 <i>We're British</i> Tickets on Sale	10	11	12	13	<i>A Matched Pair:</i> 14 <i>Accidental Friends</i> <i>Secret Lives of Toads</i> 11:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
<i>A Matched Pair</i> 15 3:00 p.m.	16	17	18	<i>No Sex ...</i> 19 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.	<i>No Sex ...</i> 20 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.	<i>No Sex ...</i> 21 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.
<i>No Sex Please ...</i> 22 2:00 p.m. <i>Wizard ... Children's</i> <i>Auditions - 5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Wizard ...</i> 23 <i>Adult Auditions</i> 7:00 p.m.	ACT IV Meeting 24 1:30 p.m. <i>Wizard ... Adult</i> <i>Auditions - 7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>No Sex ...</i> 25 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.	<i>No Sex ...</i> 26 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.	<i>No Sex ...</i> 27 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.	<i>Surprising ... Pigs</i> 28 <i>Auditions - 9:00 a.m.</i> <i>No Sex ... British</i> 2:00 & 8:00 p.m.
<i>No Sex ...</i> 29 <i>We're British</i> 2:00 p.m.	<i>Dancing With</i> 30 <i>Ocala's Stars</i> Tickets on Sale	31				

"The Curtain Raiser" is the official newsletter of The Marion Players, Inc. dba Ocala Civic Theatre. The Theatre is located at 4337 East Silver Springs Boulevard, Ocala, Florida 34470. "The Curtain Raiser" is published monthly and is available free of charge to anyone who is interested in our activities.

For information about the organization or to be added to the mailing list, call (352) 236-2274.

APRIL 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<i>No Sex ...</i> 1 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.	<i>No Sex ...</i> 2 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.	<i>No Sex ...</i> 3 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.	<i>No Sex ...</i> 4 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.
<i>No Sex ...</i> 5 <i>We're British</i> 2:00 p.m.	6	7	8	<i>No Sex ...</i> 9 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.	<i>No Sex ...</i> 10 <i>We're British</i> 8:00 p.m.	<i>No Sex ...</i> 11 <i>We're British</i> 2:00 p.m.
<i>No Sex ...</i> 12 <i>We're British</i> 2:00 p.m.	<i>Surprising ...</i> 13 <i>Story Of ... Pigs</i> Tickets on Sale	14	15	16	Golf Tournament 17 1:00 p.m. <i>Marion Ballet: Princess</i> <i>Style - 0:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Marion Ballet</i> 18 <i>Princess Style</i> 0:00 p.m.
<i>Marion Ballet</i> 19 <i>Princess Style</i> 0:00 p.m.	<i>The Wizard Of Oz</i> 20 Flex Reservations and Exchanges Open	21	22	23	24	<i>Dancing With</i> 25 <i>Ocala's Stars</i> 7:00 p.m.
26	27	ACT IV 28 General Meeting 6:00 p.m.	29	30		



Sponsored in part by
the State of Florida, Department of
State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the
Florida Arts Council, and the National
Endowment for the Arts.